

# RESOLUTION

## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-37

*Sponsored by: Councilwoman Mary K. Brown*

### A RESOLUTION

**HONORING, COMMENDING AND CELEBRATING RUSSELL G. HILL ON BEING NAMED THE 2023 RECIPIENT OF THE BEREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GRINDSTONE AWARD.**

*WHEREAS*, the Berea Chamber of Commerce holds an annual Grindstone Award Banquet for the purpose of honoring, recognizing and celebrating outstanding members of our community; and

*WHEREAS*, for over half a century, the Chamber of Commerce has presented the Grindstone Award to those worthy individuals who have, throughout their lives, significantly impacted the community and contributed to making the City of Berea a wonderful place in which to live and work; and

*WHEREAS*, the 2023 recipient of the Grindstone Award is Russell G. Hill; and

*WHEREAS*, Mr. Hill, a long-time resident of the City and Berea High School graduate, is the founder, owner and president of Ultimate Lead Systems, Inc., and a successful entrepreneur, business owner, mentor and supporter of the community and beyond; and

*WHEREAS*, while fostering a successful professional career, Mr. Hill has actively and passionately served the City of Berea as the President and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce, a Trustee on the Board of Berea High School's Alumni Association, the Chairman of the Heritage Architectural Review Board, a member of Berea Town Forum, a member of the Tax Abatement Review Board, a member of the Charter Review Commission, and a member of Rotary International, where he was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship award in recognition of his exceptional community service; and

*WHEREAS*, Mr. Hill volunteers with the Cleveland Chapter of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), a non-profit organization that pairs seasoned and successful business professionals with promising entrepreneurs in order to provide advice and perspective on all aspects of starting, running and growing a business; and

*WHEREAS*, through SCORE, Mr. Hill has mentored over 12 individuals, including the founder of Good Knights of Lorain County, a non-profit that builds beds for under-served children who do not have them, and now presides as Chairman of the Board of Directors of this phenomenal organization that has delivered hundreds of beds to kids in need and, with the assistance of Mr. Hill and Kiwanis, may help bring the program to the children of Berea; and

*WHEREAS*, as a promoter of community arts, Mr. Hill was a Board Member of the Little Red School House Foundation where he led strategic planning sessions for the restoration and preservation of the school house; and

*WHEREAS*, Mr. Hill served on the committee to rename Berea High School, emceed the "End of an Era" celebration, advocated for the restoration and reinstallation of the Tree of Knowledge sculpture at the new high school, and continues to be instrumental in planning the reunions for the Class of 1972; and

*WHEREAS*, like his father, Russ Hill Sr., recipient of the 1986 Grindstone Award, Mr. Hill has, for decades, given generously of his time and talents as an employer, mentor, volunteer and advocate, helping to make the City of Berea a better place in which to live and work.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Berea, State of Ohio:

**SECTION 1.** That the President and all Members of Council do hereby honor, commend and celebrate Russell G. Hill on being named the 2023 recipient of the Berea Chamber of Commerce Grindstone Award and do, with grateful hearts, extend our most sincere appreciation and respect to Mr. Hill for his countless years of passionate service to our community, and for exemplifying what is best about the City of Berea.

**SECTION 2.** That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the approval of this Resolution were approved in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 3.** That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: September 18, 2023

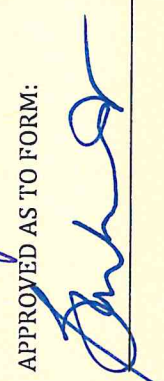
APPROVED: September 18, 2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_, President of Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk of Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Law Director